Statement

Details Regarding Letters Received from MPs

Ministry	No. of Letters Written by MPs from 1.4.90 to 31.3.93				Letters acknowledged	Final replies sent	Positive replies	Negative replies
	1.4.90 to 31.3.91	1.4.91 to 31.3.92	1.4.92 to 31.3.93	Total				
Law, Justice & Company Affairs	375	782	490	1647	514	506	368	25

Estimated Cost for identity cards to Voters

574. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated cost for providing identity cards to all voters in the country as directives of the Chief Election Commissioner;

(b) the estimated annual recurring cost for updating the identity cards; and

(c) whether the expenditure involved is proposed to be charged from the consolidated Fund of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The total estimates cost is likely to be between Rs. 1100 and Rs. 1650 crores.

(b) The precise estimates of recurring cost are not yet available with the Central Government. The recurring expenditure, however, would not only include expenditure on issue of new identity cards every year but would also include expenditure on the administrative set up required to undertake the job on a permanent basis.

(c) No, Sir.

Appointment/transfer of Judges

575. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and various High Courts of the country existed as on 31st January, 1994;

(b) by when Government are going to fill up those vacancies;

(c) what are the criteria for the transfer of a Judge from one High Court to the other; and

(d) by when Government Supreme Court propose to fully implement the Transfer Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The requisite information is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(b) For filling up the vacant posts in the Supreme Court and the High Courts the process of consultation among the constitutional authorities is on. It is, however, not possible to indicate when these vacancies are likely to be filled up.

(c) Transfer of Judges from one High Court to another is made on the recommendation of the Chief Justice of India in terms of Article 222 of the Constitution of India.

(d) It is not possible to indicate the time by which the transfer policy of having 1/3rd of Judges in each High Court from outside would be implemented.

Statement

Vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts in the country as on 31.1.1994

Sl.No.	HIGH COURT	No. of Vacancies as on 31.1.94
1.	Allahabad	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2
3.	Bombay	14
4.	Calcutta	13
5.	Delhi	5
6.	Gauhati	5
7.	Gujarat	4
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
10.	Karnataka	6
11.	Kerala	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9
13.	Madras	4
14.	Orissa	1
15.	Patna	4
16.	Punjab and Haryana	7
17.	Rajasthan	2
18.	Sikkim	1
	Total	83
	SUPREME COURT	3